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TRIACETIN ANALYSIS

With the objective to find out about the types of triacetin used by competitors, triacetin and glycerol-propionate-diacetate (GPD) concentrations in CA filters of most of the competitive brands listed in the CI Report 4/5 1980 have been monitored by (GC) (1).

Based on earlier investigations (2), types of triacetin used have been assigned according to the distinct GPD concentrations found :

- A - Estrobond B (Eastman) and Amcel : ~0.6 - 1.3% GPD.
- B - Celanese : ~2.0 - 2.6% GPD.
- C - Rhodia, Henkel, Unichema, Chemical, Unem, Bayer : GPD < 0.5% or GPD - free triacetin.

In Table 1, information concerning country, manufacturer, brand name as well as triacetin and GPA/triacetin concentration and type of triacetin used are given.

- Concentration of triacetin found in CA filters of competitive brands vary between 0 and 13%.
- Most of the competitors are using GPD-free triacetin.
- Competitors are probably playing with triacetin concentrations to change taste characteristics, e.g. Burrus : Select F with 10.3% triacetin and Select special mild with only 2.9%.
- Some of the competitors are using different types of triacetin : RJR (Switzerland) for Camel F Estrobond B with 1.3% GPA, for Camel mild GPD-free triacetin.

For Parisienne, Burrus uses triacetin of Celanese with 2.6% GPD, for Parisienne Super GPD-free triacetin and for Kent Special Estrobond B with 0.8% GPD.

It seems that at least some of the competitors are well aware of the fact that taste and impact of cigarette smoke can be influenced by triacetin quality and quantity.

REFERENCES

1. Memo from M. Häusermann to W. Fink, July 17, 1980.
2. Report from Y. Genoud to A. Widmer "Analyse de la Triacetine et de Humectants par colonne Capillaire", April 4, 1980.

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